



Advancing the science of lake management

> DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

July 5, 2005

To: Nathaniel Jones

From: Terry McNabb

Re: Capitol Lake

During the summer of 2004, our firm performed an aquatic herbicide treatment in Capitol Lake designed to selectively remove the Eurasian Milfoil in the system. This noxious weed was widespread in the lake and was impacting beneficial uses. Renovate Aquatic herbicide was selected as the most appropriate option during the process of development of the Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan for the lake. This herbicide has a systemic mode of action, and will translocate and control the entire plant including the root crowns.

At the end of last summer, Eurasian Milfoil was completely controlled in Capitol Lake as a result of this treatment. There were a few plants upstream of the lake in the delta formed where the river enters the lake near Tumwater Park. These plants showed significant herbicide injury. Divers targeted and removed these plants where practical. Our firm is contracted to perform additional surveys in the coming years to detect any surviving or re-introduced milfoil plants and recommend control strategies.

Our biologists performed a preliminary survey of Capitol Lake on June 21st of this year. The objective of this survey was to get a general feel for plant growth conditions in the lake and to determine if the full scale survey was appropriate based on the plant growth conditions in the lake.

We conducted a visual boat survey of much of the littoral area of the lake and river inlet areas. We also collected a number of rake samples at GPS sampling locations where there were significant amounts of Eurasian Milfoil this past year prior to treatment. We did not observe or collect Eurasian Milfoil plants at any point in this process.

It is clear at this point that Eurasian Milfoil has been effectively targeted in Capitol Lake. The herbicide treatment has had significant carry over and no milfoil plants were observed during this careful inspection of the lake. If there was survival of significant amounts of milfoil, we would have seen or captured plants as part of this mission.

We will conduct our comprehensive inspection of all of the littoral area of Capitol Lake in the next few weeks. It is possible some milfoil plants have survived this treatment and if that is the case they will be discovered and mapped in the comprehensive survey. If that in fact occurs, it should be possible to target them effectively as there is no wide spread pattern of survival.
